

**WILL COUNTY BOARD
DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS MEETING**

**Will County Office Building
Conference Room B
302 N. Chicago Street
Joliet, IL**

MINUTES

November 19, 2009

8:45 a.m.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Adamic called the meeting to order at 8:47 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Present were: Deutsche, Traynere, May, Seiler, Brooks, Jr., Stewart, Winfrey, Babich, Wilhelmi, and Adamic.

Absent were: Anderson.

Also Present: Pam McGuire, Matt Ryan, and Nick Palmer.

Present from State's Attorney's Office: Melanie Manning.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Traynere, seconded by Mr. Stewart, to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2009 meeting. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIES.

Discussion of November 19, 2009 Agenda

Mr. Adamic stated we have presentations today from Pace, RTA and Metra.

Ms. Winfrey arrived at this juncture.

PROCLAMATIONS

LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Dubois gave an overview of the land use resolutions.

Mrs. Seiler arrived at this juncture.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ryan stated there will be a \$228,000 savings due to furloughs and a \$2 million savings with the severance. There are lay offs at Sunny Hill and Land Use which are motivated by either lack of work or the audit findings from last year. Probation and Detention is another issue, the state has not honored its commitment with funding. We fill we will be able to provide services at the current level.

Mr. Adamic questioned how many lay offs are there.

Mr. Ryan stated there will be 13 full time and 2 part time employees laid off.

Mr. Babich questioned will the non bargaining employees be getting a raise.

Mr. Ryan stated no, there is a STEP movement for the union employees.

Mrs. May questioned how long did those employees work at Sunny Hill. Are we helping them find assistance through programs such as Workforce?

Mr. Ryan stated those resources are available and they are also on a recall list for four years.

Mrs. May stated I would also like to know what is going on with the University of Illinois extension.

Mr. Adamic stated we did address that last month with \$25,000. We will look at funding later in the year. They are a valuable resource.

Mr. Ryan stated there has never been a line item for them even when we have allocated money to them.

Mr. Friefeld stated the problem is there is extension law which puts some burdens on the extension office which they have never addressed because we have always written them a check. This is an opportunity to get that straightened out. They need to make a request on an annual basis and County Board needs to review it annually. I have met with members of the extension. One thing that

needs to be brought up is that they have solicited money from the County and municipalities but not the townships. There are 24 townships.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr. Babich gave an overview regarding the public works resolutions.

Mr. Friefeld stated we do have a constituent that has asked to speak about the Laraway Road speed zone. This person did not understand that there was a deadline and I have spoken with Mr. Bilotta and he has no problem with that.

JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mrs. May stated I did have questions regarding the EMA grant and the Community Concerns. How many grants do they get and how much do they receive in funds from the County? Their website did not answer that question.

Mr. Wilhelmi arrived at this juncture.

Mr. Palmer stated I can find that out.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

The Ridgewood project was discussed.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Ms. Traynere gave an overview of the last capital improvements meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Adamic gave an overview regarding the executive committee resolutions.

Mrs. May questioned what does the CED do for the \$100,000.

Mr. Friefeld stated they handle all the economic development for the County. We contract with the CED to do that function.

APPOINTMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.